Indiana House of Representatives
News and Information

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PIERCE BILL SEEKS TO BOOST ENERGY EFFICIENCY, USE OF RENEWABLE SOURCES

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana would place greater emphasis on developing renewable forms of energy and increasing energy efficiency if a bill authored by State Rep. Matt Pierce (D-Bloomington) becomes law.

House Bill 1642 would establish a sustainable energy institute that would work with utilities to promote renewable energy technologies such as fuel cells, wind power and biomass and the use of micro-turbines and other distributed power sources. The institute also would implement programs to reduce energy demand by increasing energy efficiency.

"By focusing on reducing energy demand and finding alternative energy sources, we can save consumers money and shift to cleaner sources of energy," Pierce said.

Grant Smith, director of the Citizens Action Coalition (CAC), says Pierce's bill is an important priority for the group.

"CAC believes this bill can bring lower utility bills over the long term, move us toward cleaner sources of energy and avoid the construction of costly new power plants," Smith said. "It's truly a win-win for consumers and businesses across Indiana."

The institute would develop programs to:

– Market the benefits of energy efficiency;

– Initiate efforts to transform the energy market to rely more on sustainable energy; and

– Provide incentives for sustainable energy investments.

Pierce says the bill will benefit the state by moving it toward cleaner, renewable forms of energy and saving significant money for consumers by reducing demand for energy through increased energy efficiency.

"This sustainable energy initiative can set Indiana on a path toward more reliable power sources that are less expensive and more environmentally friendly," Pierce said.

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